

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William R. Reid on 28 July 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claims 16-19.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: no prior art has been found, nor presented, that either teaches or fairly suggests a process for preparing a propylene polymer composition in an at least two-stage process, wherein, in a first polymerization stage, a propylene homopolymer is prepared by polymerization, and in a second polymerization stage, ethylene and propylene are polymerized to give

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an ethylene/propylene copolymer comprising more than 97% to 99.5% by weight of ethylene, wherein the amount of the ethylene/propylene copolymer in the propylene polymer composition ranges from 10 to 50% by weight, and the propylene polymer composition comprises a melt flow rate, MFR, from 2 to 50 g/10 min. in accordance with ISO 1133 at 230°C and 2.16 kg, or wherein such process further includes the step of subsequently mixing an ethylene C₃-C₁₀ 1-alkene copolymer comprising a crystallinity lower than the ethylene/propylene copolymer formed in the second polymerization stage, as recited herein.

The instant Specification states the ethylene/propylene copolymer can comprise at least 90% by weight of ethylene, and preferably comprises from 95% to 99.5% by weight of ethylene, as such, one skilled in the art would clearly recognize the instant Specification was in possession of the currently claimed ethylene content range of more than 97% by weight for the ethylene/propylene copolymer at the time of filing. As such, the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10-12, 14 and 15 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph is hereby expressly withdrawn.

Since there are no outstanding issues with regard to the clarity or enablement of the claims, these claims are deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan M. Nutter whose telephone number is 571-272-1076. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James J. Seidleck can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nathan M. Nutter/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796

nmm

28 July 2010